# SOCIAL ACTION

VOL. 6 NO. 4	APRIL 1956	
THIS SIDE AND THAT	A. L. 14	
THE LIVING WAGE	VICTOR 14	
INDIA AND COMMUNISM	REMI PAUL 15	
THE SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN	F. C. R. 16	
BOOK REVIEWS	A. L. 18	
SOCIAL SURVEY	F. C. R. 18	

# This Side and That

#### Code of Manners

When going through the syllabus of schools of social service, one is struck with the stress laid on industrial relations, civic duties, social hygiene and what not. Strangely enough none insists on a factor which is the salt of social life: etiquette. Of course mutual respect and sympathy are mentioned in social ethics, but the manner and style of bringing out those inner feelings are not detailed.

As a label describes the contents of a package, so etiquette tells us the qualities, tonality of respect, warmth of regard, delicacy of benevolence, refinement of spirit, etc., with which people treat others. As the spontaneous expression of inner feelings might be clumsy, obscure or liable to misunderstanding, tacit mutual agreements are made that give words, gestures, tone, posture, a definite significance; they are the social conventions. These conventions vary with the cultures, traditions, requirements and transactions of groups and

societies. There are various types of such social conventions, e.g. one expressing respect and fostering fear, another expressing equality and fostering impertinence; one stressing the sense of personal dignity, and giving an opening to pride, another bent on a display of mutual attention and allowing for hypocrisy, and so on. Tribal life has its etiquette as well as the sophisticated ceremonies of cities though sociologists who write or read big books on manners and customs often enough fail to unearth the fundamental feelings common to all men.

#### Learning Etiquette

Because of this pluralism in codes of manners, would it not be opportune to prepare and teach a short course of national and international etiquette? Our citizens travel from place to place, people of many regions foregather, tourists come and go, delegations go and come, mankind gets so much together that one is often enough at a loss in trying to be adequately urbane and pleasant to all and sundry.

There are obvious rules; even in the most comradely style, cultural visitors do not sprawl on couches, or play the buffoon; V.I.P.'s are not welcome with a mixture of flowers and pebbles, political leaders are received in a Rolls Royce and not in police van, etc. But there are also conventions which one cannot know without detailed learning. Our young people who wish to play their patriotic part in pining cultural or other delegations, committees and commissions would feel happy if they could get a firm grasp of the particulars of national and international etiquette.

NC

n-

ar.

ce;

ng.

of

SO

is-

ten

m-

ers,

ort

Dur

any

ons

one.

ely

om-

nes.

ha

are

etc.

now

vish

ther

feel

lars

The sense of brotherhood mints the gold coins of social intercourse, etiquette issues the small change; gold coins should be genuine, but also neat, shining small change contributes to the ethics and esthetics of social intercourse. A social service course should supply gold coins and small change.

#### Life Insurance

The Minister of Finance did not mince words when explaining what had led to the nationalisation of life insurance. The matter had been studied over the last five years. The insurance work was done without any sense of trusteeship and social responsibility. Savings in the shape of premiums were handled as monies of shareholders, and invested uncautiously, if not fraudulently, in many cases, whilst the legal controls imposed from time to time had failed to improve matters. Management expenses ran up to 27 per cent of the premium compared with 15 in U.K. companies and 17 in the U.S.A. concerns, whilst the premium rate was about the highest in the world. When the policy-holder sees that only twelve annas out of each rupee he paid up are actually used to guarantee his future claim, he naturally expects they will be securely invested, but they were largely loaned out on doubtful securities or put into equally doubtful concerns; which practice partly explains why many claims were postponed indefinitely or unanswered. "The truly well-managed companies are a very small minority". "Legislation. and control can no longer be regarded as giving us a reasonable chance of achieving our objective". Hence nationalisation. If companies complain against the measure, they have only themselves to blame.

But are the policy-holders reassured? Should one say that money is always safe with a Government, when one notes the many instances of inflation and money depreciation which happened here and there in many countries? Are there no cases of fraud and corruption in government services and undertakings? If concerns that fail in the private sector must pass into the public sector, should not business that fails in the public sector pass to the private sector?

#### Look Before You Leap

The Life Insurance bill is the first step taken towards the socialist pattern of Indian society. At the back of this new policy, there is no Marxist dogma as is usual with socialists of Continental Europe, but rather a vague ideal of moving towards a society in which everyone enjoys the same social rights and standard of living, and the move must be step by step as circumstances dictate, one step forward and one (or two?) steps backwards, more or less in the style of the British Labour Party.

In that connection, one should note the reserved attitude of Mr. Hugh Gaitskell, the new leader of the Labour Party, who shows himself very shy of any further nationalisation, and would prefer reaching equality through redistributing income by taxes and deathduties rather than through a full-scale nationalisation which would spell the death of freedom and democracy.

tl

lo

Si

ji

ir

N

e

d

re

?

SS

ils

0-

he

as

er

ich

m-

?)

ish

ved

the

ur-

ua-

th-

ion

acy.

# The Living Wage

(Continued)

## Obligation in Social Justice or Strict Justice?

The family wage is considered by Pius XI in "Quadragesimo Anno", a right of the labourer. He writes: "So in the first place an effort must be made to obtain that which our predecessor Leo XIII, of happy memory, has already required, namely, that in the State such economic and social methods should be set up, as will enable every head of family to earn as much as, according to his station in life, is necessary for himself, his wife, and for the rearing of his children; for the labourer is worthy of his hire."

"To deny this, or to make light of what is equitable, is a grave injustice, and is placed among the gravest sins by Holy Writ. Nor is it lawful to fix such a scanty wage as will be insufficient for the upkeep of the family in the circumstances in which it is placed."

Though it is expressed in clear terms in the above passage the obligation of the employer to pay a family wage to the labourer on account of the dignity of human labour, still moralists discuss whether such a duty is of strict justice or not. The importance of this discussion is great, for if the family wage is due in strict justice (commutative justice), there arises the question of restitution.

As a personal fault or sin this may be more serious in God's eyes; but the violation of commutative

tl

justice brings about the problem of restitution with all its complications.

From the word obligation used in the encyclical we cannot make out clearly whether it means strict justice, for the obligation may be of general justice as well as of commutative justice. Of course the Encyclical insists on Living Wage (Q. A. 73) to the extent of advising the liquidation of the business if unable to pay a living wage. But such a demand could also be based on social justice.

While sociologists starting a posteriori from social facts and echoing the misery of the slums and poverty of the modern worker, have claimed, since long, a Living Wage for the worker, moralists have been generally more reluctant to accept the thesis of the obligation in strict justice. For the moralists starting a priori from the principles sticking literally to the notion of commutative justice which demands in any contract equality between the value of the services and the price given for them, could not reconcile themselves to the obligation of strict justice for paying a family wage. But due to the weight and learning of Papal documents at present the moralists are more social minded; although the majority of them still maintain that absolute Living Wage to be a claim of social justice, a good number like A. Vermeersch, Merkelbach, Kuppen, Noldin-Schmith, defend the absolute-Living Wage claim in commutative justice; while a few like V. Vonghelew, C. Noppel and M. Rocha go to the extent of defending the obligation of relative Family Wage APRIL 1956

1

S

-

t

e

0

i.

y

7-

y

n ri

of

ct

ne

es ly

al

al

in

e.

h,

ng

ke

ge

in commutative justice. (1) One of the reasons why moralists are reluctant to admit the obligation of Living Wage in strict justice, is because the sum involved cannot be determined accurately, and consequently arises the difficulty of fixing the amount of restitution. We think that when the Government, as the agent of common good should fix a Legal sum or price as the Living Wage; then no doubt, moralists should accept Legal Living Wage, binding in commutative justice. We think a good practical solution to solve the difficulties of Living Wage would be to foster Social Legislation fixing the exact amount of Living Wage. In the case of India, the Government legislation fixing the exact amount of Living Wage in Rupees, Annas and pies would constitute a good guidance for us. Still this requires a good deal of statistical studies for which I think just now we are not prepared.

But the lack of evidence in determining the condition of this obligation can in no way excuse the employer avoiding the obligation of paying the Living Wage.

#### If the Economic Conditions Allow

In case the employer cannot pay a Living Wage he cannot be bound to do so; for when there is no profit nothing can be paid, and when the enterprise is running at a loss there is no profit. But no doubt the employer is bound in social justice to improve things in such a way as to be able to pay a Living Wage. On this subject Pius XI draws some pertinent conclusions:

Cfr. Collationes Brugenses, 1950: De inferiori justi salarii Limite: p. 213.

"The condition", he says, "of any particular business and of its owner must also come into question in settling the scale of wages; for it is unjust to demand wages so high that an employer cannot pay them without ruin and without consequent distress among the working people themselves ....."

Evidently in such circumstances the labourer's right to a family wage becomes suspended and hypothetical, as does the claim of a creditor when the debtor becomes insolvent. But the employers must have in mind that wages comes first and then the profit, though they are not obliged to pay high wages when there is no profit at all.

But in such a case it becomes the duty of the State to interfere in order to take proper measures to secure the minimum family wage. But if the business makes small profits on account of bad management, fault of enterprise or out of date methods, this is not a just reason for reducing the working man's wages.

The weighty commentary on "Quadragesimo Anne" by Oswald Nell-Breuning (3) holds that the obligation of paying Living Wage in strict justice does not arise until society is so reorganized (through social justice) that the economic value of the workers contribution equals a living wage.

The conclusion is that each country or place, according to the economic conditions, should fix Living Wages corresponding only to the standard of the

<sup>(3)</sup> Reorganization of Social Economy, p. 177.

N

SS

d

hie

's

0-

or

n

h

e

te

re

of

st

10

e

es

al

1-

c-

g

ne

country and countries should strive to increase production in order to make it possible to give a Living Wage as high as possible.

#### V. APPLICATION TO INDIA

When we come to treat of the Living Wage in India, we must repeat again that besides the human needs of the worker we have to consider the economic condition of the country. This is most effectively shown in the National income or per capita income of India. It naturally follows that when the national income is high, its level must be reflected in the standard of life of the people, as well as in the worker's wages. As in India the national income is low (4) the Living Wage cannot go high, except if we take merely minimum Living Wage, as our ideal for the productivity of the worker as well as that of the country cannot pay more than what production allows. The two elements therefore, national income and Living Wage, should go apace provided distributive justice is the rule of the country.

Having in mind those principles, we have now to ask how much should be the minimum Indian family wage. It may not be 10 dollars like in U.S.A., but should be enough to maintain about 6 persons according to the standard of the people in India. (5) This

<sup>(4)</sup> Per capita income in 1946 of different countries was as follows: India, Rs. 204; Australia, Rs. 1799; Canada, Rs. 2,868; United Kingdom, Rs. 2385; United States, Rs. 4,668; Cfr. India Govt. Gazette, Dec. 1946.—See also Wadia and Mercant and Economic Problem, p. 523, 540.

<sup>(5)</sup> Fr. Nevett in "Social Action" for July gives 6.6 persons for Indian average family.

implies that the wages should be enough to support a family of six as regards food, clothing, housing and education. But how much should it be in terms of Rupees? To know this we require a well studied Family Budget of the different classes which do not seem to be available, but we cannot avoid mentioning some facts here.

There are in India many millions of unskilled workers in rural parts as well as in the towns living on the border of starvation, and who may not get even one Rupee a day. Evidently such families are not getting a Living Wage, for no family budget will be possible to adjust with Rs. 30/- a month. In such cases it is the duty of the State to take the necessary steps, not precisely to get immediately an ideal Living Wage, but at least to raise their wages from the starvation level. Here then is a vast field for relief for public and for private agencies and immediate steps should be taken to relieve the extreme misery of families who make only Rs. 30 a month.

In Western countries it is easier to make a calculation for Living Wage, because there is a rather confirmed standard of life, but in India the gaps are so great between the low paid agriculture—coolies and the skilled industrial workers that to make an accurate average family budget becomes an almost impossible task. Until social and economic life of working classes become more standardised the difficulty continues.

Regarding the factory workers, it is obvious we must admit there must be great difference between

N

a

nd

of

ed

ot

19

ed

ng en

t-

13-

es

os, ge, on lic ld les

al-

er

re

nd ite

ole

ses

we

large cities like Bombay, Calcutta and up-country villages. A budget of Rs. 100/- may not suffice in Bombay to make a family wage, but evidently it will be quite enough in a village. Since the problem of minimum Living Wage is mainly concerned with industrial workers, we have to make a careful table of the cost of living of a family in the towns and industrial centres. Then only will we be able to make a demand for a minimum Living Wage according to the economic conditions of the place. This is the work of experts.

Two years ago in the study class in Alwaye Seminary we fixed tentatively the minimum family wage (for five members) for non-industrial areas of Malabar at Rs. 64/- a month, distributed as follows:

Food Rs. Clothing	45—0—0 5—8—0	(calories above 1,500)
Education	5-0-0 4-8-0	*
Total	64-0-0	

Of course, this may not be called an ideal saving wage as explained before; but it represents approximately a decent minimum Living Wage in the villages of Malabar. It is plain that for towns like Bombay we will have to double the amount in order to get the same convenience we get in the villages of Malabar.

Supposing that per capita income for India is only Rs. 250 the maximum wage this income allows is Rs. 115 per family per mensem, while the maximum allowed by American per capita income is more than Rs. 2,000.

In order to prepare the ground and create a suitable climate for the progress of social reform regarding the Living Wage among the employers and the public in general, we have to emphasise two remarks. Employers should have in mind (1) "Wages should come first and then the profits", (2) the principle "salary should be according to the work" is too individualistic and disregards the needs of the family which should be implied in the wages. These two principles must be our guidance in our effort to fight the unrestricted capitalistic views in order that the poor may not be deprived of minimum Living Wage now, and specially after the present transitory stage the social and economic life becomes more standardised. (6)

However, the raising of Living Wage depends mainly on the economic condition of the country: i.e. on Production. The Five Year Plans have for their immediate object to increase production and per capita income. When production is considerably increased then the question will be of distribution and then only will it be possible to pay to the average man in India a Living Wage which may help him to lead a happy

<sup>(6)</sup> Family wage considered here is for every honest normal worker (Encycl. Rerum Novarum) who according to normal economic conditions, is supposed to render labour enough as average man. Very often people are employed who cannot render efficient work, or the kind of work they do is such that they in no way deserve a full wage. Such workers should have the character of mere family servants, or else of part-time workers, and they are not expected to get in justice a full salary, as normal labourers. Such workers should not usually have full responsibility for the support of a family.

i-

1-

10

S.

d

le

i-

S-

al

n-

e-

ta

d

v

ia

Y

al

ur

ed rk

ge. ly

ot

r-

n-

life. When we look to the enormous potential resources which India possesses, we have every hope, and pray that through wise planning we can raise India to the status of a prosperous nation providing its millions with the means of comfortable existence and every honest worker with a minimum decent Living Wage.

Fr. Victor, o.c.D.

# India and Communism

(A paper read at the Hindi Session of the All-India Catholic Lay Leaders' Conference, Nagpur)

We are here today to discuss a highly controversial subject. But a subject controversial only to those who do not have a clear conception of what this subject truly means. In the minds of those who clearly understand even the bare principles of Communism, there is not the least shadow of doubt that its hypothesis and the methods deduced therefrom are totally unacceptable. Yet it is stealthily gaining ground in our country. But before trying to account for this expansion, I would like to say a few words on what Communism is and what it really stands for.

Communism is a materialistic and atheistic philosophy of life infiltrating today into the practical affairs of our social, political and economic life. It is an international conspiracy directed by totalitarian Russia which is committed to world conquest. An important result of the Communists materialistic outlook is his determination to destroy all forms of religion. For the Communist all religion is a mere fabrication of lies to keep the exploited and the 'have-nots' of society in willing chains to their expropriators and capitalistic employers. Religion is the opium of the people. Nor has this Communist dogma changed over the last forty years of its existence as a powerful bureaucracy in Russia. Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, the first Secretary of the Communist Party in Russia, who had just finished his good-will tour in our country, openly admitted

"We remain atheistic and we do everything we can to liberate a certain part of the people from the opium attraction of religion which still exists."

#### In India

How is it then that Communism with such a materialistic and atheistic philosophy of life has been able to become a threatening danger to India whose whole cultural heritage has been spiritual? Looking back over our country's long ages of civilised living, we may say that the priveleged vocation of India among other peoples is to be a witness and messenger of the priority of the mystery of God over that of material creation. She has been the witness of the unique value of that which does not pass away, the eternal, the spiritual, and the life within. Hence the reason for the appeal of an atheistic and materialistic Communism in a traditionally spiritual India cannot be explained by the appeal of its atheistic and materialistic philosophy. In fact, the philosophy behind Communism is too little known in India. If Communism NC

is

he

es

ty

tic

ty

in

of

ed

na-

en

ose

ing

ng,

dia

ger

of

the

the

the

stic

not

ria-

m-

ism

were displayed in its true colours, it would lose much of its popularity very fast. This in itself is a potent factor in determining for us, believers in God and the spiritual, the means of fighting against the continual encroachment of Communism in India.

Because it is impossible to say everything about Communism in this brief paper, I intend to limit the scope of the paper to a consideration of the threat of Communism in present-day India.

### Gathering Strength in India?

Since Communism is a negation of all that is spiritual and religious, we may rightly ask ourselves why it is that it is gaining strength in our country? We must look elsewhere for the explanation.

## (a) The poverty of India.

India in spite of its plentiful resources has been a land of abject poverty and misery for a very long time. Since we have gained our independence, the Congress Government has been making great efforts to eradicate this poverty through its five-year plans, its Community Projects, its Development Schemes, etc. People have been generously co-operating with the Government to lift this curse of poverty from off the land. Our country has made astonishing progress, yet it will take some time still before the effects of these plans and projects reach the teeming millions of India, especially the rural population, which compose the majority of our population. Meanwhile the people are impatient to shed their garb of poverty and don that of plenty. The Communists generally take advantage

of this time-lag situation. They spread dissatisfaction with the Government among the people. The uneducated, and even the educated, become an easy prey to Communist promises of a quick material paradise.

(b) The problems of languages, reorganisation of States, etc.

There are certain great political and social problems, such as the problem of language, reorganisation of States, etc., which the Congress has still to grapple with. There is much ill-feeling among the masses at this delay. They do not trust the leaders partly because of the wide-spread corruption among political leaders. Here again the Communists exploit the situation. Let me give you only one instance. The Report of the States Reorganisation Commission is now published. There is ample evidence that the Communists have used this report to spread excitement amongst the disgruntled elements of the population. They incite the people against the policy of the Congress Party and the Congress Government. Here also they do not follow any uniform policy. They study the temper of the interested groups and act accordingly. They try to create a gulf between the different sections of the people sometimes on communal and sometimes on linguistic or provincial basis. Thus they divide the people and poison their minds with their policy and teachings, creating among them unrest and revolutionary tendencies.

(c) India's friendly attitude towards Communist countries.

The third of the general reasons why Communism is gaining strength in our country is India's definitely

N

n

n-

ey

b-

on

le

at

ly

cal

ıa-

ort

ıb-

sts

gst

ite

rty

not

per ney

of

on

the

ind

lu-

ism

ely

friendly attitude to Communist countries. There are frequent visits of the heads of the States from one country to the other. When Pandit Nehru visited Russia and China he received an unprecedented welcome in those countries. Communist leaders visiting India have been equally well received. We have just had Bulganin and Krushchev in India and they were given one of the grandest receptions in our history. Millions cheered them as they passed by. It would appear that Communists are our greatest friends and benefactors. Yet, here is what these so-called friends are planning and hoping of us. They want India to have the same kind of 'liberty' and 'freedom' as exists today in China. Rajini Palme Dutt, the Communistappointed guru of Indian Communists, says in the Communist Party's weekly organ, the New Age (11/9/55):

"...the path of political development in India is moving forward to the same basic aims of complete liberation from imperialism and its associates as has been achieved by the Chinese People's Revolution."

Mao-tse-Tung in his message to India in Nov. 1949 expressed the fond hope that:

"A free India will one day emerge in the world as a member of the Socialist and People's democratic family."

In other words, China's Dictator hopes that India will one day become just another colony of the U.S.S.R. So quite naturally, when India welcomes her, Russia smiles, cleverly hiding her intention of bringing India within the fold of the Communist countries. India's

show of friendship for Russia and China gives a handle to our Communist friends here, to work for this same end of throwing India in Moscow's bosom.

(d) The sense of frustration among the youth of the country.

As the last of our general reasons for the spread of Communism in our country let me draw your attention to the widespread sense of frustration prevailing among the youth of the country, especially in Colleges and Universities. We have recently witnessed several cases of student indiscipline, chiefly at the instance of communists and communalists. The firing incidents at Patna in Bihar are quite recent cases. And in regard to them the Students Action Committees have publicly admitted that the National Flag was dishonoured at the instigation of certain political parties.

### Methods and Techniques

By what methods and techniques does Communism hope to gain a foothold in India. With the Communists, the end justifies the means. With them, making an agreement and breaking it, is just a matter of expediency. With them formal international agreements mean nothing; they are never more than a paper agreement and therefore are broken whenever policy demands. Pundit Nehru and Marshall Bulganin agreed on the dissolution of the Cominform. This is Russia's international organisation to give directions of policy and aid to the Communist Party in each foreign country. The Cominform, supposedly dissolved, is today very much alive and kicking. There is undeniable evidence that the resources of the Communist Party

in India come from the crores of rupees which it obtains from the Cominform to maintain an army of whole time workers, newspapers, publishing houses, bookshops and 'Front Organisations'.

Mr. J. D. John writes in the "Current" of 12/10/55:

"A very large number of Russian books in Hindi, Urdu and Bengali are being sold in the market. All these books preach Soviet ideology and are very cheap. This is the first time that Russia begun to flood our market with books in Indian languages—a new step to indoctrinate our masses with an alien ideology. It also amounts to financial assistance to the Communist Party of India. Looked at from any angle this step of the Moscow Foreign Literature Publishing House amounts to interference in the internal affairs of our country."

Here is a flagrant violation of one of the fundamental principles of our Panchashila, to which both Bulganin and Krushchev pay lip service.

#### Infiltration

The infiltration of Communists into organized sectors of public life is well known. They have their cells in Government Departments, Parliaments and Assemblies, Armed Forces, the Police, educational and cultural institutions, newspapers, trade unions, Kisan Sabhas, Students' Unions, etc. The cases of Alger Hiss in the U.S.A. and of Petrov in Australia are only too well known. Slowly and stealthily they creep into

the

ION

nd-

this

ead atailin

essthe ring And

ave our-

muomnakr of ree-

per licy reed sia's licy

day able arty every organization, get a strangle hold on it and bring it completely under their domination. To quote one instance. The following incident is reported in the Amrita Bazar Patrika of 8/9/55:

"My Syed Hassan has resigned from the P.D.F. Legislative Party of Hyderabad due to certain serious differences. Giving reasons Mr. Syed Hassan said to the Patrika representative that the P.D.F. Party was dominated by Communists and all the important elements of the Party were Communist minded....from top to bottom the Communists were having their say in all matters. The non-Communists members were being used as tools for propaganda and the party was practically doing nothing for others."

#### Front Organizations

Everyday the Communists are forming organizations, under their own communistic control, of the unorganized sectors of public life. They have their cells in every union of practically every type of worker. When the Communists have attained full control over these various organizations, they transform them into so-called 'Front Organizations'. The names of these organizations may not suggest communist influence, but the whole purpose of their existence is to promote the ends of the Communist Party at the moment, viz. separatism, disruption, unrest and discontent among the masses in general and the workers and labourers in particular.

bring te one in the

CTION

If and when different sections of these unions or sanghs clash and come to blows, the Communist purpose has been achieved.

The Communist tactic is essentially disruptionist and violent. It is carried into every branch of the administration, even into the legislature. All democratic opposition and action is corrupted into irresponsible, violent agitation. This is the 'modus operandi' of the Communist Party in India as well as in the rest of the world.

A very neat analysis of the whole purpose and intent of the above mentioned infiltration by the Communists was put forth in the Lok Sabha by the Deputy Speaker, Mr. Anantasayanam Ayangar. In his analysis of the political parties in India before the Laski Institute of Ahmedabad, it was reported that:

"He regretted that there was no real opposition party in India. He dismissed the Communist Party at the outset because the Communists do not believe in Parliamentary Democracy. If, therefore, the Communists assume power in India, they would establish a totalitarian government as in Russia and China."

(Indian Express, 15/10/55)

#### The Future of Asia

Let us now turn to a consideration of the significance of the policy of China and the policy of India with regard to the future of Asia. In these two great countries of Asia, a new order of government and society have come into existence. While China has

e uncells orker. over into these e, but

these, but e the viz.

embraced the principles of Marxism, India is determined to abide by the standards of democracy. India bases her government on respect and the maintenance of the Rule of Law. Every individual has the right to voice his opinion on political, social and economic affairs; he cannot be pushed around arbitrarily by the Government. Our Courts still zealously uphold the rights of the citizen. There is no forced labour in the land. The press is comparatively free. The Government is responsible to the Legislatures, Central and State, both of which are elected by the people in free elections.

China on the contrary is a totalitarian dictatorship. In China the individual is just so much raw material to be moulded according to the dogmas, the twists of policy and the needs of the Communist Totalitarian State. Thus the Chinese ideal is totally opposed to the Indian. Yet the problems in each country are similar.

In each country a radical transformation, both social and economic, is urgent. Poverty and industrial backwardness are common to both. And touched by the contact of the material advantages of the West, the people of both countries, especially the educated classes, demand radical changes in the existing state of affairs. Both countries therefore wish to do away with penury and equip themselves with modernized industries. But their methods of attaining their ends radically differ.

Thus we see a sort of competition, though unintentional, going on between the two countries. South Asia is awaiting the outcome of this competition. Which-

terndia
ance
t to
omic
the
the
the
ernand

V.OI

ship. erial ts of rian the ilar.

free

both strial d by Vest, eated state way nized ends

Asia hichever country shows the more impressive economic progress will be accepted as the leader of Asia. If it appears that by sacrificing freedom there can be greater economic advancement, the intelligentsia will not hesitate to turn Communist. In the meantime, while the Indian Government pushes on with its social and economic reforms, the Indian Communist Party is consistently thwarting the Government and its efforts to make the free system a success. At present, the Communist Party is the principal and most formidable opponent of the Congress.

#### Counter-action

Is there any way to counteract the nefarious propaganda being so effectively carried on by the Communists?

In the opening paragraphs of this paper, I had pointed out that India's whole cultural heritage has always been spiritual. She has all through the ages been a witness and a messenger of the priority of the mystery of God over material creation. As such, India cannot accept the atheistic, materialistic philosophy of Marx, Lenin and Stalin. I feel sure that as soon as our people come to realise how opposed to all their conceptions of God and creation. Communism truly is, they will reject Communism outright.

To strengthen our argument, it will not be out of place, to put before the masses the opinions of the Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi and his true disciple, Acharya Vinoba Bhave. Their whole lives have been so wrapt up in the spiritual, that even their

social and political work is just another aspect of the Divine and the immaterial. Mahatmaji calls Communism 'Satanic', while Vinobaji, comparing Gandhism and Communism says:

"Two persons were so physically alike that one could well have served as the double of the other as a political fraud. But there was one slight difference. One breathed, the other did not. The result was that a dinner was being prepared for one, and a coffin for the other."

#### Communist 'Liberation'

It would be worth while to give full publicity to what Communistic "liberation" truly means. This is how some of our leading politicians, writers and social workers describe it. Shri P. Verma, M.L.A. (U.P.) writes in the *Pioneer* of 16/9/55, from Berlin:

"Communism in Europe's Eastern zone is nothing more that Russian Colonialism, and after having come into contact with a good many Europeans of these parts, I dare say that none are happy about it. But our Communists in India who talk so much about liberty, equality and fraternity, would do well to see what a bondage it is for the Russian-held Easterners. No West German or foreigner or Indian can purchase anything in East Germany or East Berlin. But the Easterner can go to West Berlin and buy anything he likes."

the nuism

ION

Shri K. Dutta writes in the Organiser of 3/10/55:

"The Soviet Colonial record in Asia is not as widely known as that in Eastern Europe, although the process of subjugation has been both extensive and ruthless."

Shri Narayan Agrawal writing for the *Tribune* on 30/9/55 says:

"....there is no opposition party or organised public opinion tolerated in the Soviet Union or in China. This is negation of real Democracy. India is not going to allow this state of affairs."

Dr. K. N. Katju, Defence Minister of India, addressing the Congress Seva Dal Camp, called upon the people to fight Communism and check the growth of its ideology, which he said was capturing the minds of Asians. He also said that there was no democracy or freedom of speech in Communist countries.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi, member of the Congress Working Committee, and daughter of the Prime Minister of India, addressed a very large gathering of students in this very city (Nagpur). In her address, she said:

"Students in India enjoy far greater opportunities, and a much greater freedom than their counterparts in Russia."

Then she went on to describe the low standard of living and shortage of food and housing. Here then are just a few samples of what our leaders have seen

to This and A. A. in:

and told us about Communism in the very Mecca of Communism. These reports will be of the upmost importance when we try to put before our people what Communism is, and what it stands for and what it means in everyday life.

#### Conclusion

It is our duty then to fight back the Communist peril to the best of our ability out of a sense of loyal--ty to our faith and our country. Our efforts must be twofold: we must refute the propaganda of the Communists as well as work for the social and economic uplift of India. Unlike the rest of South East Asia we cannot just watch the competition going on between the democrats and the totalitarians for the soul of Asia. We must throw in our weight with the efforts of our democratic country and see that India's efforts are crowned with victory, because in her salvation lies our salvation too. This is one more essential reason why Indian Catholic Lay Leaders should seriously play their part in the social uplift of their country and give her the right type of guidance she sorely needs in these anxious times.

Remi Paul

cca of

st imwhat that it

# The Second Five Year Plan

The Planning Commission of the Government of India has published a Draft Outline of the second Five Year Plan. It has been offered for general information and for eliciting comments and suggestions. It first briefly states what has been already achieved during the first Five Year Plan and then goes on to give a substance of the proposals for the continuation and development on a larger scale of the great work undertaken to achieve the socialistic pattern of society—
"an economic and social order, based upon the values of freedom and democracy without caste, class and privilege, in which there will be a substantial rise in employment and production and the largest measure of social justice attainable."

The second Plan period begins on April 1st, 1956 and will end in 1961. The plan which has been presented as a Draft Outline is the result of the labours of large numbers of persons in the Central Government, in the States at various levels and leaders of thought and opinion in every part of the country. For two years now the needs of the country as a whole and of every village in particular have been studied with great care and plans laid for further progress. India has undertaken a stupendous task. Much money, swear, labour and blood will have to be expended. But if

nunist loyalmust of the econon East ng on or the

India's er salessenshould their ce she

th the

J.c

<sup>\*</sup> The material for the above article is taken from SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN, A Draft Outline, published by the Planning Commission, Government of India, February, 1956. Price Re 1 or 1sh 6 d.

all co-operate and do their best, each one in his own allotted sphere, the people of India will be able to look back with joy and pride at the good work accomplished for the betterment of this vast land.

In the first Five Year Plan the emphasis was assigned to agriculture and irrigation and power; in the second Plan industrial and mineral development will be the spearhead of economic development. The total outlay for the second Plan works out at Rs. 4,800 crores. Of this total over half will be spent for the development of industries, minerals and transport, the latter being absolutely essential for the progress of the former two categories. The distribution of the outlay by major heads of development is as under:—

1.	Agriculture and Community			
	development	565	crores	12%
2.	Irrigation and Flood Control	458		9
3.	Power	440		9
4.	Industries and Minerals	891		19
5.	Transport and Communications	1384		29
6.	Social services, housing &			
	rehabilitation	n 946		20
7.	Miscellaneous	116		2

#### Targets of Production and Development

The plan envisages an increase in agricultural output by about 18 per cent. The production of food grains is to increase by 10 million tons or 15 per cent, and somewhat larger increases are expected in the case of cotton (34 per cent), sugar (28 per cent) and oilseeds (21 per cent). At the end of the plan the consumption

asthe will otal ,800 the the the

TON

look

ish-

9

9 19 29

20

outains and e of eds of foodgrains will, as a result, increase to 18.3 oz. per adult as compared to 17.2 oz. at present. The national extension and community development projects will be extended so as to cover a total population of 325 millions. Land brought under irrigation will increase by 21 million acres as compared to an increase of 17 million acres during the period of the first plan. The generation of electric power will be stepped up by the installation of additional capacity of 3.4 million kW to 6.8 million kW in 1960-61 as against 2.3 million kW at the beginning of the first plan. There will be substantial domestic production of steel, coal, cement and fertilizers. The output of finished steel is planned to increase from 1.3 million tons in 1955-56 to 4.3 million tons in 1960-61. The total output of producer goods in the country is expected to go up by 150 per cent over the next plan period. Considerable advance is envisaged in education, health, housing, rehabilitation of displaced persons and other social services.

# National Income and Employment

The sum total of these developments is reflected in the movement of national income. The national income is expected to increase from Rs. 10,800 crores in 1955—56 to about Rs. 13,480 crores in 1960—61. This will mean an increase of about 18 per cent in per capita incomes (from Rs. 280 in 1955—56 to Rs. 330 in 1960—61) as against an increase of 10 per cent over the first plan period. The target is to double the national income by 1971—72. If the present rate of increase is kept up we shall have reached the target by 1967—68.

One of the problems which the plan seeks to solve, at least to an appreciable extent, is the acute problem of unemployment. Additional employment likely to be generated over the second plan period in sectors other than agriculture is estimated at 8 million. In this estimate only full time employment has been taken into consideration. It is estimated that there will be about 10 million new entrants to labour forces during the period of the second plan. If we add to this the 5·3 million back-log of unemployed we get a grand total of nearly 15 million. It is assumed that large numbers will find full-time jobs in agricultural pursuits.

### Co-operatives

During the first five year plan, largely on the initiative of the Reserve Bank of India, several important steps have been taken to reorganise the co-operative movement with special reference to agricultural credit. The co-operative movement now includes 22 State co-operative banks, 499 Central banks and bank unions, 126,954 primary credit societies and 9 Central and 291 land mortgage banks. At the primary level, besides agricultural credit societies, there are 30,306 agricultural credit societies, 8,389 non-agricultural credit societies and 21,137 non-agricultural non-credit societies. The primary agricultural credit societies have a total membership of 5.8 million and non-credit societies of 2.7 million.

It is proposed that the long-term g oal for the cooperative movement should be reorganisation of rural business on a cooperative basis in such a way that within 15 years 50 per cent of the total business, ino solve, roblem tely to sectors In this taken will be during his the d total umbers

CTION

he iniportant erative credit. ate counions, nd 291 besides gricul-

credit

ocities.

a total

ties of

the cof rural y that ess, including credit, marketing, processing, etc., comes within the cooperative sector. It was further proposed that during the second five year plan the active membership of primary agricultural credit societies should be raised from 5 to 15 million and the amount advanced through the co-operative movement in short-term loans from Rs. 30 to 150 crores, as medium-term loans from Rs. 10 to 50 crores, and of long-term loans from Rs. 3 to 25 crores. The principal targets in the co-operative programme for the second five year plan, are as follows:-

Number of large sized societies	12,000
Number of marketing societies to be	
organised	1,700
Number of other processing societies	112
Warehouses of Central and State	
Corporations	350
Godowns of marketing societies	1,700
Godowns of larger sized societies	5,000

For achieving these targets, apart from the contribution which the Resevre Bank will make, the plan provides for a total amount of about Rs. 48 crores.

The Ministry of Food and Agriculture has prepared a draft legislation for setting up Central and State warehousing corporations. It is proposed to build up storage capacity of 2 to 2.5 million tons. The Central Warehousing Corporation is expected to establish nearly 100 Warehouses, each having a storage accommodation of 10,000 to 20,000 tons or more. State warehousing corporations are expected to construct about 250 warehouses of 2,000 to 10,000 tons of capacity.

As for the development and progress of the cooperative movement the need of personnel is of paramount importance centres have been set up to impart thorough training for all categories of personnel.

#### Agriculture

The satisfactory results attained in the agricultural sector during the first plan suggest a change in the perspective for agricultural development during future plans. As it is no longer necessary to place a dominant emphasis on the production of cereals, the aim now is to diversify agricultural production, to put land to the best possible uses and to take all such measures as will increase the productivity of land and the yield of individual crops. Greater attention will be paid during the period of the plan to certain aspects of land utilization neglected in the past, such as horticulture, cultivation of fodder crops to support livestock development and dairy farming and village plantations for the supply of fuel. Rs. 350 crores has been earmarked for agricultural development and is distributed as under :-

Agriculture	164	crores
Horticulture	9	
Animal husbandry and dairying	61	
Forests and conservation	48	
Co-operation	47	
Fisheries	11	
Others	10	

For crops such as sugarcane, cotton and jute a number of special measures are proposed to be undertaken. Intensive sugarcane development schemes, are to be extended to non-sugar factory areas. About a million more acres are expected to be brought under sugarcane cultivation. In cotton, efforts will be concentrated on increasing the area and the production of long staple varieties. Development plans of States also provide for schemes for the cultivation of improved types of tobacco, for better methods of production and marketing of black pepper, lac, and cashew-nut.

One of the more important aims in the agricultural sector during the second plan period is to increase the production of fruit and vegetables. The plan allots Rs. 8 to 9 crores for promoting fruit and vegetable cultivation. The plan also provides for the development of the fruit and vegetable preservation and canning industry through loans for establishing canneries and cold storage plants.

In providing for an outlay of over Rs. 40 crores for animal husbandry and Rs. 21 crores for dairying, it is hoped that during the second plan period greater progress will be made in this branch of agriculture than has been so far possible.

Despite the large cattle population of India (nearly 195 million) the net value of live-stock products amounted to Rs. 664 crores or about 11 per cent of the income from agriculture. In 1951 there were some 5,000,000 useless cattle in India. Attempts to ban cattle slaughter is increasing the useless cattle population. As the fodder problem is acute the surplus population is only adding to the difficulty of improving livestock.

the

w is

d to

TION

CO-

of

p to

son-

vield paid land ture, leve-

s for rked d as

te a

More and more veterinary centres are being established. These by controlling and eradicating cattle diseases are cutting down mortality which again increases the cattle population.

During the plan period special attention will be paid to breeding better stock, to increase the food supply and to develop the milk and milk product industry.

#### Irrigation and Power

At the beginning of the first plan the total area under irrigation from all sources was 50 million acres. Of this, the area that received secure irrigation from large and medium-sized irrigation works was only 25 million acres. The doubling of this area by irrigation works, which would remain effective in years of low rainfall, was adopted as the target to be achieved over a period of 15 years. By the end of the second plan period nearly 20 million acres will benefit from the various projects undertaken.

Out of the 188 new irrigation projects, 136 will cost less than Rs. 1 crore; 34 between Rs. 1 crore and Rs. 5 crores; 8 between Rs. 5 crores and Rs. 10 crores; 9 between Rs. 10 crores and Rs. 30 crores; and only one project more than Rs. 30 crores. Most of the irrigation projects, therefore, of the second plan will be of medium or small scale and will yield results in quick succession.

The growth of energy resources is one of the principal foundations of industrial development. The consumption of electricity is rightly cited as an index of economic development.

estacattle n in-

TION

paid pply

area acres. from ly 25 ation low over plan the

will and res; only the will s in

rinconk of During the first plan installed capacity has gone up to 3.4 million kW and the per capita consumption has gone up from 14 to 25 units. About 19,000 miles of sub-transmission lines of 11 kV and above have been added, thus more than doubling the transmission network which existed at the beginning of the first plan.

It is proposed to raise the installed capacity by the end of the second plan to 6.8 million kW. In all 42 power generating schemes (new schemes and extension to existing power stations) will be undertaken during the plan period. With the construction of 35,000 miles of transmission and sub-transmission lines of voltages of 11 kV and above, the transmission net work will be doubled. Energy generation which stood at 6.6 billion kWh before the first plan is expected to increase to 11 billion kWh in 1955-56 and to 22 billion kWh at the end of the second plan. By the end of the plan period 80 to 90 per cent of towns with a population between 5,000 and 20,000 will be electrified. Towns bigger than those have been electrified already. Attempts will be made to supply electricity to as many villages as possible. The target is to electrify 10,000 out of 561,000 towns and villages with a population of less than 5,000.

#### Industries

As has been stated above the emphasis in the second plan is on industries. Over half the total outlay will be spent on industries and allied subjects. The total provision made under the second five year plan for industrial and mineral development amounts to about Rs. 710 crores. In addition Rs. 200 crores are

allotted for the development of village and small industries. The public sector will play a dominant role in the industrial development during the entire plan period. Private sector will be some sort of a handmaid.

The aim of the Government is to make India self-sufficient as regards all forms of machinery. With this in view, during the second plan period attempts will be made to increase the production of steel from 1.3 million tons in 1956 to 4.3 millions in 1961. Three new steel mills will be set up at Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur each with a capacity of one million tons ingot. The existing steel works at Tatanagar and Mysore will be expanded.

The programme for the establishment of heavy engineering industries includes a heavy steel foundry at he Chittaranjan Locomotive Factory to meet the requirements of the railways for heavy castings, and the establishment of foundaries, forge shops and structural shops. Negotiations are going on for the establishment of a heavy electrical equipment factory. It will be some time before this factory will go into full production. Many of the factories started during the first plan period, such as the Chittaranjan Loco Works, the Integral Coach Factory, the Hindustan Shipyard, the Telephone Factory and others, will go into full production during the second plan period. The development of steel and certain key industries will lay the foundation for the manufacture of practically all forms of capital goods in India within the next ten or fifteen years.

nall role lan aid.

ON

elfhis vill 1.3

urgot. vill

dry the

ita-It full the ks,

rd, full velay

or

The private sector will supply machinery for a number of industries such as cotton textiles, jute and sugar, paper and cement, etc. Manufacture of electric motors, transformers, road-making equipment, various forms agricultural machinery will be stepped up considerably.

Here are some of the targets set for the second plan (target for 1960—'61):-

Steel	4.3 million tons		
Structural fabrications	500,000 tons		
Aluminium	25,000 tons		
Locomotives	300		
Fertilizers	450,000 tons		
Ship-building	90,000 GR Tons		
Cement	800,000 tons		
Automobiles	57,000		
Bicycles	1,250,000		

#### Minerals

During the second Five Year Plan, on account of the requirements of steel and transport, the development of coal production will claim the first attention. Coal production increased from 34·3 million tons in 1951 to 36·8 million tons in 1954. On the basis of targets proposed in the second plan for industries, for thermal power generation and for railways, the demand for coal at the end of the plan period is estimated to be about 60 million tons. Most of this will come from the collieries of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

#### Social Services

The outlay on social services during the second plan will be about twice the provision made in the

first plan. During the second plan about Rs. 946 crores have been provided for social services, the distribution being as follows:

Education	320	crores
Health-including urban water		
supply	267	
Housing	120	
Labour	26	
Welfare of Backward classes		
Social Welfare	28	
Rehabilitation	90	
Social schemes for educated		
unemployed	5	

The objective of health programmes is to improve the general level of health by expanding the basic health services and bringing them within the reach of the people. It is estimated that in 1951 there were 8600 medical institutions in the country with about 113,000 beds; in 1955—56 the number of institutions is estimated to be 10,000 with about 125,000 beds. At the end of the second plan the number of institutions is likely to be 12,600 and the number of beds 155,000 so that the increase expected is about 26 per cent in institutions and about 24 per cent in hospital beds.

The key to the extension of health services and their efficient operation is the availability of trained personnel in all categories. The number of registered medical practitioners which is estimated to be about 70,000 at the end of the first plan is to be raised to 90,000. For this purpose new medical colleges will be set up and existing ones will be expanded. At the end of

ution

TION

rores

1954 there were 20,793 nurses, 24,290 midwives, 756 health visitors, 4,468 dais and 946 nurse-dais. The aim is to provide one doctor, one nurse and one midwife for every 5,000 population. India will need 80,000 nurses, 80,000 midwives, 20,000 health visitors and 80,000 dais and nurse-dais. But at the end of the second plan, if all goes well, the numbers will be as follows: doctors: 80,000; nurses: 31,000; midwives: 32,000; health visitors: 2,500; and dais and nurse-dais: 41,000.

Another problem of vast dimensions is the one relating to housing. There are an estimated 54 million houses in the rural area, of which a large number need rebuilding or reconditioning. In the urban area the housing problem is very acute. During the first plan period about 1.5 million houses were built. During the second plan period efforts will be made to build a further 2.2 million houses. In spite of all the building programmes in 1961 the shortage still be about twice as much as it was in 1951.

\* \*

A plan covering a five year period has to be regarded as essentially flexible. It will have to be constantly kept under review and as new possibilities or directions of development emerge, the plan may have to alter here and there or modified to suit given circumstances. The Government will now consider the criticisms offered by the public after going through the Draft Outline. After taking these into consideration a fuller version of the second Five Year Plan will be placed before the public.

F. C. Rodrigues

ons is 00 so instiand ained tered about 0,000.

et up

orove

basic

ch of

were

about

ons is

# **BOOK REVIEWS**

A COURSE OF MORAL INSTRUCTION, Part III. By Louis Leguen, s.J., Pp. 80.

The first two parts of the present course dealt with the "Foundations of Morality" and "Moral Life". Part III reaches "The Top and Crown of Moral Life", namely, virtue, which perfect man's moral excellence. It shows what human life looks like when actually made moral. The ground covered extends over the field of the main virtues, prudence, temperance, justice and fortitude. The treatment is meant to be at the level of high school students.

A. L.

THE SOCIAL ATTITUDE. By C. C. Clump. Madras, Loyola College Book Depot, 1955. Pp. 74.

The aim of this book is to give the senior students of schools and colleges and members of Social Study Groups guide-lines which may enable them to discharge their social obligations and stir their minds to constructive thinking in this field.

It studies man's social side, the social order, the family, the state, social economy, its organisation and its right order. Helpful discussion aids are distributed so as to facilitate a deeper assimilation of the subject.

A. L.

THE EVOLUTION OF MAN. By Fr. M. Hermanns, Allahabad, Society of St. Paul, 1955. Pp. 140.

Readers who have gone through a good deal of literary and journalese essays on Darwinism will be fortunate to acquire this book by Fr. M. Hermanns, S.V.D. a specialist in the subject. His book is a challenge to Darwinism and its various schools. The subject is taken from successive angles; human biogenetics, physical and cultural anthropology, pre-history and paleontology, so that this multiple approach makes a full treatment. Fifteen neat illustrations enhance the value of the study.

Louis

CTION

which in life overed empeto be

th the

L. ₄oyola

roups social

amily, order. ate a

abad,

erary

equire subarious uman y and treai-

f the

What makes the special value of the study is its objective and up-to-date character. The data of the various sciences dealing with evolution are registered, collated and duly qualified; none is omitted, and all are noted as probable, false, certain or uncertain as the case may be. Their bearing on evolution is examined, tested and stated in as clear a language as possible. It is the best focussed summary of the subject one could expect.

But the author who is an authority in the Vienna School of Anthropology has not been satisfied with going through the work of others; he has added the most valuable information which he personally gathered on various primitive tribes of India, particularly on the Kadar of Cochin, a tribe which up to now is usually neglected.

The book is not recommended to amateurs of fairy-tales on our ancestors; but it will give full satisfaction to students who are keen on having scientific data and logical reasoning. It is a "must-book" for the library of every college in India.  $A.\ L.$ 

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS. By V. V. Giri, Bombay, N. M. Tripathy, 1955. Pp. 71. Price: Rs. 2/-.

In his forword, Shri Asoka Mehta introduces the brochure as a series of lectures delivered to the Scindia and Associated Companies Staff Union by the Ex-Labour Minister, Government of India. This should be enough to tell their importance, and interest.

The problems relating to Trade-Unionism and Industrial Relations are taken up first. The author takes a strong stand against compulsory arbitration and for conciliation boards and collective bargaining he also advocates a gradually increasing share of the workmen in the management of industries, a most desirable ideal which the illiteracy of labourers discourages, and which should be protected against the interference of outsiders.

His goal is "a Welfare State or a Cooperative Commonwealth gradually evolving....a Socialist State and a Classless Society in their fullest sense". He evidently foresees that "the private sector will be ultimately absorbed in the public sector". (p. 21) He does not however explicitly advocate complete nationalisation, but apparently nurses the idea of a system of labour-management cooperatives. One might surmise that people who are of that way of thinking, feel, and rightly so, that property is really de-socialized when it is nationalized, since it is de-personalized when made anonymous. The question of rationalization for India is thoroughly studied; the conclusions recall Mahatmaji's three principles for effecting rationalization: rationalization should not create unemployment; additional workload, if any, to workers ought not to be such as to jeopardize their health; the profits of rationalization are to be equitably shared by management and labour.

The ensemble of the studies reveal a deep sense of social justice and equity as well as of a prudence born of practical experience over many decades.

A. L.

Matrimony was not instituted or re-established by men but by God; not men, but God, the Author of nature, and Christ our Lord, the restorer of nature, provided marriage with its laws, confirmed it and elevated it; and consequently those laws can in no way be subject to human wills or to any contrary pact made even by the contracting parties themselves..... The freedom of man has no power whatever over the nature of matrimony itself, and therefore when once a person has contracted matrimony he becomes subject to its essential laws and properties. Hence St. Thomas Aguinas, treating of conjugal fidelity and the procreation of children, points out that "in marriage these things are implied by the matrimonial contract itself, and therefore it anything contrary to them were expressed in the consent which makes the marriage, it would be no true marriage at all". (Christian Marriage).

# Social Survey

#### The Handloom Industries

Recently was celebrated the All-India Handloom Week which has become an annual feature. Exhibitions and seminars were organised and speeches made by top leaders.

During the last few years the handloom industry has received much attention from the governments, both Central and State. It plays a vital role in expanding employment in the rural area. There are about 2,000,000 handlooms in India which provide employment to about 5,000,000 persons and an estimated 20,000,000 persons depend on them for their living. During 1955 about 1,450 million yards of cloth was produced by the Handloom Industry in India worth about Rs. 5 crores.

During the first Five Year Plan period a sum of Rs. 11·1 crores was spent on this industry. It is proposed to spend Rs. 66·5 crores during the second Five Year Plan The money will be spent on treaching weavers better methods of production, supplying more modern equipment, setting up housing colonies for workers, establishing co-operative agencies for supply of raw material, storing and marketing. Plans have been to supply power to handlooms in order to enable the weavers to earn more. At present they earn about Rs. 50 to 60 per month. They may be able to earn as much as Rs. 200 per month by using power and modern methods of production.

In the Madras State a large number of Co-operatives have been set up which have become quite popular among the weavers. In Andhra the Government is considering the setting up of a Finance Corporation to rehabilitate the handloom industry.

# Hostels for Working Women

The Central Social Welfare Board has set up a committee to study the problem of finding living accommodation for working women in big cities of the lower income group, i.c. to say those earning between Rs. 75 and 150 per month. The

blic cate

ION

of a mise htly

The ied;

ectemot to

our.

e of

hed hor ure,

eleway oact

the nce ject

mas eatnese

self,

age,

Committee will tour all the big cities to find our what facilities are now available and what can be done for the immediate future. Government is prepared to grant financial aid to private institutions who are prepared to set up hostels for such working women. Whether we like it or not more and more middle class women are seeking employment in towns and cities. A good proportion of them find no accommodation and have to impose themselves on unwilling relatives and friends. Living in commercial establishments is either expensive or dangerous and usually both. Properly run hostels are a crying need. Here is an excellent chance for social work.

# Employees' State Insurance

A sum of Rs. 30,642,615 was received 1954-55 as contribution by the Employees' State Insurance Fund while a sum of Rs. 3,192,942 was expended.

Of the contributions received Rs. 18,789,480 was income from employers, Rs. 9,726,312 income from employees, Rs. 1,197,574 income from miscellaneous sources and Rs. 929,349 grant-in-aid from the Central Government. Of the expenditure Rs. 2,129,773 was by way of medical benefit, Rs. 1,773,303 for sickness benefit, Rs. 6,925 for maternity benefit, Rs. 759,125 disability benefit, Rs. 3,473,578 for administrative expenses and Rs. 5,239 for other expenses.

As is seen from the above figures only about 25 per cent of the total receipts has been expanded. Of this nearly half (45%) was for administrative purposes only. Though one of the main purposes of the Insurance scheme is to make available relief in time of illness and incapacity only about 10 per cent of the total income has been spent under this head. Something seems to be very wrong with the Scheme, or at least in the way it is worked in practice.

#### Cross-word Puzzles

At last Mysore has fallen in line with the rest of India by applying the provisions of the Central Prize Competition Act of 1955 to the State. The Government of Mysore has stated that the licence granted to the R.M.D.C. Cross Word Puzzle Competition which ends on March 31st of this year will not be renewed in the present form. The Provisions of the Act will apply which means the sponsors will not be able to offer more than Rs. 1000 in prizes nor accept more than 2000 entries for each competition. Many a youthful gambler will be hard hit as he will not be able to dream any more of that first prize running into five figures which was to be his.

# Management of Industries

Prime Minister Nehru addressing workers under the auspices of the Indian National Trade Union Congress said that the present relationship between labour and capital was not a good one. He is of the view that the time has come when labour should play a greater part in the affairs of industry by having an effective share in its running. He said that there were several methods of associating labour with the management of industries. The Government is going to experiment with these methods to see which one is the most suitable.

Several Government concerns have already announced their intention to make a beginning in this line. A selected number of workers, chosen by the workers themselves, will be associated with the management. Unless strict measures are taken to see that political and other interests are kept out this new experiment is bound to fail. Unfortunately in India, as elsewhere in the world, many of the so-called trade unions are working not for the benefit of the workers but to further their own political or personal ends. Some of the so-called labour leaders are not in the least interested in the welfare of the workers for whom they are supposedly working. Often enough they are total strangers.

#### Labour Relations

The Sub-committees appointed by the Labour Panel of the Planning Commission to study certain problems relating to labour have submitted their recommendations.

ation and penstels

ocial

ION

faci-

me-

aid

for

and

wns

ntrim of

Rs. 9,349 pen-Rs. nefit,

ative

cent half one nake bout this

eme,

ndia ition has The Committee on Industrial relations, it is understood, is of the opinion that labour laws relating to trade unions and labour relations need revising. The Committee has agreed that in respect of trade union, the number of outsiders on the executive should be reduced, adequate protection should be accorded to office-bearers of primary unions and federations, and cases of victimization of other workers should be inquired into and dealt with expeditiously.

As regards recognition of trade unions, it was felt that a representative union should have, at least, one-third membership of the totality of the workers to entitle it to recognition. While collective agreements between industry and a representative union would be applicable to the entire industry, where an employer and workers in a unit had agreement on the same matters the workers should have the option to opt out of such an agreement. It was also felt that employers' organisations should be properly developed so that workers could enter into agreements with employers as such.

In the matter of the advisability or otherwise of continuing compulsory adjudication the employers are for retaining it for the time being. Amongst the workers there is a difference of opinion. The INTUC is for keeping it for the present while the AITUC and the Hind Mazdoor Sabha are more less for its abolition.

On the subject of labour association with management the employers prefer councils of management rather than appointed or elected directors. These councils should, according to employers, concern themselves only with questions of production and welfare. They also favour the idea that such councils should be given administrative responsibility for welfare activities.

The INTUC favours such association, provided the participation was "real and willing", and if employers supply information to workers' representatives on all essential matters. The Hindi Mazdoor Sabha wants consultative bodies of workers to discuss all matters concerning management. The AITUC is not in complete favour of councils but wants only elected representatives.

derstood, e unions s agreed ders on should federaould be

ACTION

celt that d memo recogtry and tire inl agreee option nat emso that as such.

retain-

for the

agement nan apaccordions of at such or wel-

supply al matbodies gement. As for wages the Sub-committee on Wages is of the view that the question of static wages should be ruled out. It suggests the setting up of wage boards for the various industries. The wage boards, in fixing wages, should take into consideration reports of the Fair-Wages Committee, the Profit-sharing Committee, and the decisions of the various tribunals and agreements reached in the Joint Consultative Board.

The workers want the contribution of the employers for the Provident Fund to be raised from 6½% per cent to 8½ per cent as the Government does to its workers. The employers are opposed to this. They want a comprehensive legislation for social insurance scheme to bring under one organisation all existing social insurance measures, with a view to give greater benefit to employers and employees.

The Sub-committee on Working Conditions has suggested the full implementation of existing legislation during the second Five Year Plan. Protection should be given to all categories of workers who do not enjoy it at present,  $e\,g$ , building and construction and transport workers. It has also suggested the raising of the housing subsidy to 30 per cent and the amount of loan to 50 per cent.

# Peripatetic Schools

With a view to training village artisans at their very doors, as many as ten peripatetic schools have been started in the Community Project area of Mehsana District of Bombay State.

According to the progress report of the project for January, 1956, 190 candidates had completed their training, while 227 were receiving training in different professions, such as cotton-weaving, tanning, leather work, dyeing and printing, rope-making, pottery, carpentary, etc.

The Community Projects Administration has decided to associate village school teachers with the development programme in a larger measure. For this purpose the teachers will be given special training. The number of blocks by the end of the second Five Year Plan is expected to be 1,800 and

the number of teachers to be trained during the Plan period would be about 72,000. The training will be so arranged that it does not disturb the normal work of the schools,

#### The Rajasthan Desert

A provision of Rs. 2 crores is expected to be made in the second Five Year Plan for soil conservation work in the Rajasthan desert. The Rajasthan desert concerns an area of about 80,000 square miles and extends into Kutch, Saurashtra and Bombay in the south and west, Punjab and Pepsu in the north and Uttar Pradesh in the east. It is stated that the problem with regard to the desert is not one of afforestation alone but of soil conservation and proper utilization of land also. The principal cause of erosion in Rajasthan is overgrazing and indiscriminate felling of trees. According to the scheme prepared for inclusion in the second Five Year Plan expenditure on the desert Afforestation Research Station at Jodpur and the extention of its activities will be met by the Government of India.

#### Rayon Pulp

A project to eliminate the dependence of India's growing rayon industry on imported wood pulp, its basic raw material, as well as to help the growth of the newsprint industry has been taken in hand by the National Industrial Development Corporation.

Two Italian experts recently visited a number of places to make a study of availability of raw materials and to select a suitable place to locate the industry.

The scope of the investigation and project report also is expected to include the manufacture of rilsan, a synthetic fibre resembling nylon, from castor oil abundantly available in India. The industrial fibre is an essential raw material for rubber tyres, brushes, etc., at present met from imports.

It is reported that the experts have tentatively selected Ootacamund, as the place provides all the raw materials in abundance.

1956

period d that

in the n the rea of ashtra in the at the station of land over-to the Plan ion at by the

rowing iterial, ry has pment

places select

also is c fibre ble in ial for s.

elected

R.